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The Commission of Fine Arts
6 April 1956

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Minutes of the Meeting of the
Commission of Fine Arts on
6 April 1956

The Commission met pursuant to notice, at 9:00 a.m., with David E. Finley, Chairman, presiding.

Present were: David E. Finley, Chairman
 Douglas W. Orr, Vice Chairman
 Elbert Peets
 William G. Perry
 Felix W. de Weldon
 Mrs. Emily Muir

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

General Services Administration
Public Buildings Service
State Department Addition

The members conferred with representatives of the Public Buildings Service, the Department of State and the architects for the proposed addition to the Department of State, who submitted preliminary plans for the structure. There was general discussion of the plans which extended the present State Department building, on the west to 23rd Street and on the South to C Street, making the main entrance on C Street, and closing 22nd Street. The members expressed their satisfaction over having the plans and elevation drawings submitted at an early date. They also expressed regret at the size and mass of the proposed structure, but assured the Public Buildings Service they would be glad to see revised drawings as their plans developed, and to make what suggestions they could for the improvement of the design.

Joint Meeting of the National Capital Planning Commission,
the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Parks
Northwest Building Area Plan, dated 1945

The Commission of Fine Arts recessed to meet in joint session with the National Capital Planning Commission, representatives of the National Capital Parks and the District of Columbia Government and the Public Buildings Service for a discussion of building plans for the Northwest Building Area. The discussion involved site plan, entrances, mass and height of the new building for the Department of State; the necessity for the proposed overpass at 23rd Street and Constitution Avenue, the widening of C Street, etc. These matters were discussed fully so that all offices concerned were informed of the respective viewpoints. It was agreed by all that the respective organizations would cooperate fully in further study as the plans developed.

The Chairman of the Planning Commission then called upon the Director of the Planning Commission to give the report of a committee that had been asked previously to study problems connected with land acquisition by the Federal Government in the northwest rectangle. The committee was composed of Mr. Poorman and Colonel Hunter representing the National Capital Planning Commission; and Mr. Wilson, the Secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts. General Grant had also been asked to serve on this committee which formulated the following recommendations:

"First, that the Commission strongly urge the General Services Administration or other appropriate authority to secure funds for the acquisition of the remaining land in uncontrolled private ownership and use within the authorized public building area outside of E Street between 19th and 23rd Streets.

"Second, that the Commission recommend eliminating from all public building areas the squares between E and F Streets, 19th Street and Virginia Avenue, as being no longer necessary for public building sites or to fulfill planned commitments for the Northwest rectangle.

"Third, that the General Services Administration or other proper authority be urged to secure authority to acquire the remainder of square 167 immediately north of the Old State-War-Navy Building. The east half here -- with a view to acquisition and reservation for future use before development or improvement is undertaken on the westerly portion of this square now owned by the United States.

"Fourth, that an adverse report be submitted on the proposed legislation to construct a new building for the Court of Claims on the present site occupied by the Court. The northeast corner of 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, along the lines of the draft letter that was attached to the report. That report suggested that this was not a good location for the Court of Claims to be reestablished, that this ought to be reserved for activities related to the Executive establishment and that the Court ought to go with other Federal Courts not now housed somewhere in either the vicinity of Judiciary Square or the Supreme Court."

After discussion of each recommendation in turn, it was moved and carried that the report be approved and it was approved by both Commissions.

Parking Facilities for the Postmaster General in the 12th Street Hemicycle

Federal Triangle and Great Plaza

Mr. Hunter asked the Commission for an opinion on a proposal of the Postmaster General to widen the roadway in the Twelfth Street

Hemicycle to permit parking and to redevelop the Exedra court on Thirteenth Street to provide additional parking space for the Post Office Department. The National Capital Planning Commission decided it could take no action on the matter.

Zoning Amendments for building heights in the Shipstead-Luce Area

Mr. John Nolen asked for an opinion on the question of changing the building heights in the area on Fifteenth Street north of Pennsylvania and New York Avenues from 80 feet to 110 feet. After it was pointed out that a new zoning regulations for the District of Columbia were being made by Harold M. Lewis, Zoning Expert of New York, it was moved and carried that no action be taken on changing the height in the area of 15th Street, New York and Pennsylvania Avenues until the Lewis report had been completed and studied.

Proposed International Plaza on the Central Mall

Mr. Charles Conrad informed the members of the two Commissions about a proposed plan to establish in Washington an International Plaza, where friendly peoples of other nations could display examples of their cultural and social life. Suggested as a site for the Plaza was the western end of the Central Mall between 17th and 22nd Streets, N.W., Independence Avenue, S.W. and South Mall Drive, including the Reflecting Pool. After a discussion, it was agreed this site was not suitable. The Chairman of the Planning Commission stated that the matter would be held in abeyance until his staff had had an opportunity to study the matter further and consider other possible sites. Discussion of this matter concluded the joint meeting of the two Commissions, and the Commission of Fine Arts returned to the discussion of its own agenda.

D.C. Redevelopment Land Agency

Southwest Redevelopment-Area C

Mr. William Slayton, of Webb and Knapp, accompanied by Mr. Weese and Mr. McClure presented a model and explained their plans for the redevelopment of the Southwest area C. The members considered the discussion an informal matter, but stressed their opinion that a serious mistake was being made in not trying first of all to get the railroad tracks under ground. Nevertheless, the members held a long discussion of the proposed buildings and arrangements with Mr. Slayton and the others accompanying him, making recommendations for the development.

Department of the Army-Office of the Quartermaster General Tomb of the Unknown Soldier-additional crypts

The members inspected the site and the model for the two additional crypts which were to be added to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, for the burial of two unknown soldiers of World War II and

the Korean Conflict. The material and form of the slabs were carefully considered. It was the opinion of the members that the slabs should be of reddish granite, flush with the pavement, and with only the dates of the conflicts inscribed upon them. It was recommended that the architect and the sculptor give further joint study to the whole plan.

Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Capital Parks
First Division Memorial - developed drawings of addition

Mr. Cass Gilbert presented revised drawings and plans for the addition to the First Division Memorial at State Place and 17th Street, northwest. The low granite addition would provide space where the names of members of the First Division who were killed in action in World War II would be inscribed on a bronze tablets. The members considered the revised design satisfactory and approved it.

Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia

Display of advertising material on outside of transit vehicles.

The Chairman read a letter from the President of the Board of Commissioners, which asked for the Commission's advice on a letter and petition for relief from Mr. R.T. Mitchell, Executive Vice President, the A.B. & W. Transit Company, on behalf of his own Company and the following Transit Companies: Capital Transit Company, Washington, D.C., Suburban Transit Company, Colesville, Maryland; W.M.A. Transit Company, Washington, D. C., and the W.V. & M. Coach Company, Arlington, Virginia. The transit companies were asking permission to install exterior advertising signs on buses and street cars operating in the District of Columbia and surrounding Maryland and Virginia. The members of the Commission believed that the introduction of exterior advertising signs on buses would tend to detract from the standards for serenity and dignity that had been formulated to keep Washington a beautiful city and it was strongly recommended that the petitioner's request be denied. Exhibit A, A-1, A-2, A-3, and A-4.

Reports on Legislation

a) S. 3054/84th Congress-Federal Advisory ^{Council sub} ~~Commission~~
on the Arts.

b) S. 3419/84th Congress-Federal Advisory Commission on the Arts

The Chairman asked the Secretary to read a letter which he had drafted to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, stating the views of the Commission of Fine Arts on the two above-described bills. It was noted that the underlying purpose of S. 3054 and S. 3419 was to establish a Federal Advisory Commission on the Arts, the principal difference in them being that the activities of the Commission proposed in S. 3054 would be contained within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, while those of the Commission proposed in S. 3419 would be in conflict with the duties and responsibilities of the already established Commission of Fine Arts. The members approved the letter as drafted and copy is attached as part of the official record of the proceedings. Exhibit B. ^{or Council}

c) S. 3445/84th Congress- Court of Claims Building

The Secretary read a letter which he had prepared to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Works setting forth the views of the Commission of Fine Arts on S. 3445, a bill proposing to erect in square 167 on the west side of Lafayette Square, a building to house the United States Court of Claims. The Commission approved the letter which recommended that the legislation not be enacted in its present form but that the new building for the Court of Claims be relocated in the vicinity of the Supreme Court or Judiciary Square. Copy of the letter is attached as part of the proceedings on this subject. Exhibit C.

d) H.R. 9873/84th Congress-Court of Claims Building

This bill being identical with S. 3445, the same action was taken and the same letter sent to the Chairman of the House Committee on Public Works. Copy of letter is made a part of the official record of the proceedings. Exhibit D.

e) H.J.Res. 397/84th Congress-Civil War Veterans Memorial

The purpose of this legislation is to establish a National Shrine Commission to assist the government in supplying the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic and other related patriotic organizations with an auditorium and meeting rooms. The structure would be designed to constitute a national memorial of the Civil War. The members expressed the hope that H.J.Res. 397 would be redrafted to fit in better with the larger programs now confronting the planners of the city of Washington. The Secretary read the draft of a letter to the Chairman of the House Committee on Public Works, which was approved as written. Copy of such letter is made a part of the official record of the proceedings. Exhibit E.

f) H.R. 9988/84th Congress- To make available temporary exhibition space for the National Collection of Fine Arts until such time as the Smithsonian Gallery of Art is established.

The Secretary called attention to the above legislation stating that Mr. Thompson has asked for the Commission's views on it. The Chairman stated that the National Gallery of Art had also been asked to express its views on Mr. Thompson's proposal that the National Gallery set aside sufficient exhibition space to accommodate the National Collection of Fine Arts. He further stated that the Board of Trustees of the National Gallery had written Mr. Thompson that such an arrangement could not be made because in the first place, there was not sufficient space available in the National Gallery, and secondly, the collections of the National Collection of Fine Arts must be shown en bloc. The Trustees of the National Gallery suggested instead that efforts be made to erect a new building for the National Collection of Fine Arts and recommended that any interim arrangements be left to the judgment of the agencies involved. Copy of the Chairman's letter to Mr. Thompson was approved and attached as part of the record of the proceedings. Exhibit F.

f) H.R. 9095/84th Congress

The members considered the above legislation to "provide for the establishment of an American National Theatre in the District of Columbia." The members agreed that it was inadvisable to make a recommendation on this subject until the report of the District of Columbia Auditorium Committee is available. Copy of letter to the Chairman of the House Committee on Public Works stating these views is attached as a part of the proceedings. Exhibit G.

Submissions for Building Applications
under the Shipstead-Luce Act

The actions of the Secretary on applications, submitted under the Shipstead-Luce Act, listed in appendix 1 were approved. Exhibit H.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.


L. R. Wilson
Secretary

16/12/61

C O P Y

A. B. & W. TRANSIT COMPANY
600 NORTH ROYAL STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA.

October 7, 1955

Honorable Samuel Spencer, Chairman
Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia
14th and E Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Chairman Spencer:

Pursuant to authority granted to me by officials of the four additional transit companies whose names appear on the attached petition, I hereby submit same for your consideration.

Your records will reveal that an informal conference was held in the offices of the Public Utilities Commission on March 15, 1955 and at that time the matter was extensively explored.

It was then suggested that a formal petition be filed with the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia. As you know there have been several developments since that time which made it advisable to delay the date of filing.

Your consideration of this petition will be appreciated.

Respectfully,

Sgd. R. T. Mitchell
Executive Vice President

Encl.
RTM:llb

W. H. & J. W. WHITE COMPANY
100 WEST 10TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, MO.

October 1, 1933

Honorable James Spencer, Chairman
Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia
410 and E Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Chairman Spencer:

Reference is respectfully made to the letter of the
Board of Commissioners dated August 1, 1933, in which
the Board requested that the Board of Commissioners
be authorized to acquire the property owned by the
Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia, for the
purpose of establishing a permanent home for the
Board of Commissioners.

Your records will reveal that an informal conference was
held in the office of the Police Officer in Charge on
March 15, 1933, and at that time the matter was extensively
discussed.

It was then suggested that a formal petition be filed
with the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia,
and that the Board be requested to authorize the Board
to acquire the property owned by the Board of Commissioners
for the purpose of establishing a permanent home for the
Board of Commissioners.

Your consideration of this petition will be appreciated.

Respectfully,

Edw. H. J. Marshall
Executive Vice President

Encl.
RTW:111

C O P Y

BEFORE THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMISSIONERS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

PETITION FOR RELIEF

The local transit companies serving the District of Columbia named hereafter respectfully petition the Commissioners of the District of Columbia for affirmative relief so as to permit the display upon their respective vehicles of advertising matter (other than advertising matter relating to their services) under such modified rules and regulations as the Commissioners shall prescribe.

Your petitioners respectfully represent that under the current regulations of the Commissioners prescribed under Title 1, Section 231 of the District of Columbia Code, 1951 Ed., the hanging, placement, painting, display and maintenance of outdoor signs on transit vehicles within the District of Columbia is prohibited.

The constant declining use of transit facilities by the public compels your petitioners to seek every lawful means to augment their revenues. Upon investigation, it has been determined that transit vehicles in municipalities comparable to Washington, D. C., permit the display of advertising matter under appropriate rules and regulations.

There is attached hereto and made a part of this Petition as Exhibit 1, a survey of representative communities throughout the United States permitting so-called traveling displays. Exhibit 1 discloses the location of the display and the approved dimensions thereof.

Exhibit 2 is a pictorial display of a currently employed advertising placard. Its relationship to the exterior of the entire vehicle upon which it appears is shown by Exhibit 3.

The use of outdoor displays can contribute, to some extent, to the depleted revenues of your petitioners without adverse affect upon the public interest. As your honorable Commission is aware, there is extensive usage of interior space of the transit vehicles for advertising placards. So too, many institutions, such as the Post Office Department, Railway Express, and other similar types of transportation companies, constantly utilize their vehicles for placard display.

Any lawful method available to your petitioners to augment their revenues will contribute to the continued maintenance of reasonable and adequate service to the public and will serve to relieve the pressure on fare levels.

Your petitioners do not contemplate the extensive decoration of their vehicles with innumerable placards, but desire a conservative, administratively approved, display program. It is suggested that the placards be approximately 21" X 27". It is further suggested that they be permanently affixed to the vehicles by a method approved by the Public Utilities Commission. Of course, offensive advertising contrary to the public interest and contrary to the public welfare will not be sanctioned; and your petitioners accept as a condition precedent to the use of display placards the continual approval of the advertising employed by them.

It is further suggested that the proposed displays be restricted to a single display on each side of the vehicle.

Your petitioners further represent that upon reasonable investigation the amendment of the current regulations of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia will not adversely affect any party or parties, but conversely be beneficial to the public interest. Your petitioners stand ready to provide such additional information as the Commissioners may require and appear at such conferences or hearings as the Commissioners may direct.

WHEREFORE, your petitioners respectfully pray that the administrative relief herein requested be granted.

Respectfully submitted.

A. B. & W. Transit Company
600 North Royal Street
Alexandria, Virginia

Suburban Transit Company
10715 Colesville Road
Colesville, Maryland

Capital Transit Company
36th and M Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

W. M. A. Transit Company
4421 Southern Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C.

W. V. & M. Coach Company
707 North Randolph Street
Arlington, Virginia

Two petitions have been submitted to the Secretary of State for the purpose of obtaining a license to operate a motor vehicle. It is suggested that the license be issued to the vehicle of a person approved by the Public Safety Council. Of course, offensive advertising contrary to the public safety policy to the public safety will not be tolerated and any person who accepts as a condition precedent to the use of his vehicle the display of an advertising sign on the vehicle.

It is further suggested that the person whose license is restricted to a display on each side of the vehicle.

Two petitions have been submitted to the Secretary of State for the purpose of obtaining a license to operate a motor vehicle. It is suggested that the license be issued to the vehicle of a person approved by the Public Safety Council. Of course, offensive advertising contrary to the public safety policy to the public safety will not be tolerated and any person who accepts as a condition precedent to the use of his vehicle the display of an advertising sign on the vehicle.

WHEREAS, two petitions have been submitted to the Secretary of State for the purpose of obtaining a license to operate a motor vehicle. It is suggested that the license be issued to the vehicle of a person approved by the Public Safety Council. Of course, offensive advertising contrary to the public safety policy to the public safety will not be tolerated and any person who accepts as a condition precedent to the use of his vehicle the display of an advertising sign on the vehicle.

Respectfully submitted,

W. V. & M. Goss Company
707 North Randolph Street
Alexandria, Virginia

W. M. A. Thomas Company
4441 Southern Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C.

Edwards Thomas Company
1015 Columbia Road
Columbia, Maryland

Capital Thomas Company
301 and 315th Street, S. E.
Washington, D. C.

A. E. & W. Thomas Company
300 North Royal Street
Alexandria, Virginia

March 19, 1956

Mr. David E. Finley, Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Finley:

At their Board Meeting on March 15, 1956, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia voted to ask the Commission of Fine Arts for their views on a request submitted by Mr. R. T. Mitchell, Executive Vice President, A. B. & W. Transit Company.

This request, addressed to Commissioner Spencer under date of October 7, 195⁵, is enclosed, together with petition accompanying said letter. Also enclosed are self explanatory reports made by the Director of the Department of Licenses and Inspections and Assistant Engineer Commissioner Nosek.

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated and it is requested that you return all the papers with your reply.

Very truly yours,

Secretary
Board of Commissioners, D.C.

Attachment Letter dated 10/7/55 to Commr. Spencer
GMT:ag from R. T. Mitchell
Petition for Relief
Report of Dir. of Lic. & Insp.
Report of Col. Nosek

January 1911

The Board of Directors
of the
City of New York
has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

It is further stated that the Board of Directors has no objection to the proposed action and that the same will be presented to the Board of Aldermen for their consideration at the next meeting of the Board of Aldermen.

The Board of Directors also wishes to state that it is the policy of the Board to keep the public informed of the progress of the work of the Board and that it is the intention of the Board to publish a report of its work at the next meeting of the Board of Aldermen.

Very respectfully,
The Board of Directors
City of New York

Very truly yours,

Mayor
John A. Bidsell

Attest:
John A. Bidsell
Mayor
City of New York

April 11, 1936

Dear Mr. President:

A letter dated 19 March 1936, which was received from Mr. G. M. Thernett, Secretary, Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, requested the views of the Commission of Fine Arts on a petition of certain transit companies, which operate within the District of Columbia, for permission to install exterior advertising signs on buses and streetcars.

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts strongly urge that the petitioner's request be denied.

The pressure of advertisers to cover every allowable space with signs has increased to such an extent that many of the most important streets now present a chaotic appearance. This situation threatens to destroy the architectural serenity that has been carefully planned to make Washington one of the most beautiful capitals in the world. To add mobile advertising would, in our opinion, be regrettable, and we hope that it will not be allowed.

The correspondence that accompanied Mr. Thernett's letter is being returned herewith in accordance with his request.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Hon. Robert E. McLaughlin, President
Board of Commissioners of the
District of Columbia
District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

April 23, 1956

Mr. R. T. Mitchell
Executive Vice President,
A. B. & W. Transit Company,
600 North Royal Street,
Alexandria, Virginia

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

This is in response to your communication of October 7, 1955, to Commissioner Samuel Spencer transmitting to the Commissioners a Petition for Relief in which permission is sought by five transit companies to display advertising matter on the exteriors of transit vehicles in the District of Columbia.

The questions involved have been considered by the Public Utilities Commission and by the agencies of the District Government concerned with administration of the Sign Regulations.

After reviewing the comments of these agencies, the Commissioners have instructed me to convey their conclusions in this matter.

The matter is not within the purview of the Public Utilities Commission. However, the Sign Regulations of the District of Columbia promulgated pursuant to Public Law 786, 71st Congress, approved March 3, 1931, apply. These clearly prohibit the advertising display for which permission is sought. Pertinent sections of these Regulations follow:

Section 1 of the Sign Regulations defines a "billboard or poster panel" as follows:

"Any sign or advertisement used as an outdoor display by painting, posting, or affixing on any surface of a picture, emblem, words, figures, numerals or lettering for purposes of making anything known, the matter advertised or displayed being remote from its origin or point of sale."

Section 16 of the Sign Regulations contains the following prohibition on signs on public space:

"No structure or standard used as a sign, bulletin or advertisement of any sort shall be built, placed, erected, hung, maintained or left in or upon any street, avenue, alley,

April 13, 1952

Mr. E. T. Ricketts
Executive Vice President,
A. B. & T. Travel Company,
400 West 14th Street,
Alexandria, Virginia

Dear Mr. Ricketts:

This is in answer to your communication of October 7, 1951, to Commission General James H. Doolittle, re the Commission's action on the matter of the proposed extension of the travel agency in the District of Columbia.

The Commission has been advised by the District of Columbia Department of Health and the Department of the District of Columbia that the proposed extension of the travel agency is not in the public interest.

It is the Commission's policy to grant extensions of the Commission's license to travel agencies only when it is in the public interest to do so.

The Commission is not aware of any other travel agency in the District of Columbia which is licensed to operate in the District of Columbia. The Commission is not aware of any other travel agency in the District of Columbia which is licensed to operate in the District of Columbia.

Very truly yours,
James H. Doolittle, Chairman

The Commission is not aware of any other travel agency in the District of Columbia which is licensed to operate in the District of Columbia. The Commission is not aware of any other travel agency in the District of Columbia which is licensed to operate in the District of Columbia.

Respectfully,
James H. Doolittle, Chairman

The Commission is not aware of any other travel agency in the District of Columbia which is licensed to operate in the District of Columbia. The Commission is not aware of any other travel agency in the District of Columbia which is licensed to operate in the District of Columbia.

highway, footway, sidewalk, parking or other public space in the District of Columbia except as may be authorized in these regulations or by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia provided: That no advertising sign or banner shall be carried or transported on or over any public space. The provisions of this section shall not be held to apply to signs displayed on vehicles and advertising the bona fide business of the owner; or to banners or signs carried by members of any labor organization, or similar body - - - -."

In addition to the views of the agencies of the District Government, the Commissioners also requested the views of the Commission of Fine Arts on this petition of the transit companies for permission to install exterior advertising signs on buses and streetcars. That Commission replied to the Commissioners by letter, dated April 11, 1956, which is quoted in part as follows:

"The members of the Commission of Fine Arts strongly urge that the petitioner's request be denied.

The pressure of advertisers to cover every allowable space with signs has increased to such an extent that many of the most important streets now present a chaotic appearance. This situation threatens to destroy the architectural serenity that has been carefully planned to make Washington one of the most beautiful capitals in the world. To add mobile advertising would, in our opinion, be regrettable, and we hope that it will not be allowed."

I am directed by the Commissioners to inform you that, after careful consideration, they have concluded that they cannot grant the petition submitted with your letter of October 7, 1955.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary
Board of Commissioners, D. C.

QNT:cg

April 10, 1956

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare has requested the comments of the Commission of Fine Arts on S. 3054 and S. 3419, bills "to provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Commission on the Arts, and for other purposes."

During the course of a meeting on April 5-6, 1956, the members of the Commission of Fine Arts accordingly took S. 3054 and S. 3419 under consideration and discussed their respective provisions. It was noted that the underlying purpose of both bills is to establish a Federal Advisory Commission on the Arts, in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and that its main duties will be to undertake studies of, and make recommendations relating to appropriate methods for encouragement of creative activity in the performance and practice of the arts, and of participation in, and appreciation of the arts.

We hope that early and favorable consideration will be given to legislation that will realize the objectives of these measures.

Of the two bills, we prefer S. 3054, which has the same approach to the objective as the legislative proposal submitted last year to the Congress by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and introduced as H. R. 5756. In S. 3054 and H. R. 5756, the activities of the advisory commission were intended to be kept within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and thus avoid danger of conflict with the established duties of the Commission of Fine Arts. The wording of this bill was worked out mutually by the Commission of Fine Arts and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and Section 7 was inserted to guard against such overlapping of duties. We strongly urge that the advisory commission not be given wide authority to deal with all Federal departments and agencies direct as outlined in S. 3419. We believe that, organizationally, such a relationship would be illogical, and mutually handicapping.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that it perceives no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley,
Chairman

Hon. Lister Hill, Chairman
Senate Committee on Labor and
Public Welfare
F-42 Capitol Building
Washington, D. C.

April 10, 1950

Dear Mr. [Name]

The Census Commission is pleased to learn that you are interested in the results of the 1940 Census. The Commission is currently reviewing the results of the 1940 Census and will be able to provide you with a copy of the results as soon as they are available.

During the course of a meeting on April 10, 1950, the Commission discussed the results of the 1940 Census and the Commission's plans for the future. The Commission is currently reviewing the results of the 1940 Census and will be able to provide you with a copy of the results as soon as they are available. The Commission is also planning to conduct a series of studies on the results of the 1940 Census and will be able to provide you with a copy of the results as soon as they are available.

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

In the last week of April, 1950, the Commission discussed the results of the 1940 Census and the Commission's plans for the future. The Commission is currently reviewing the results of the 1940 Census and will be able to provide you with a copy of the results as soon as they are available. The Commission is also planning to conduct a series of studies on the results of the 1940 Census and will be able to provide you with a copy of the results as soon as they are available.

The results of the 1940 Census will be available to the public as soon as they are available. The Commission is currently reviewing the results of the 1940 Census and will be able to provide you with a copy of the results as soon as they are available.

Sincerely,
[Signature]

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

April 10, 1956

Dear Senator Chaves:

Your letter of March 15, 1956 requested the suggestions of the Commission of Fine Arts with respect to S. 3445-84th Congress, a bill "to provide for the construction, equipment, and furnishing of a building for the United States Court of Claims, and for other purposes."

At a meeting on April 5, 1956, the members of the Commission considered the provisions of S. 3445, and it was agreed to recommend that S. 3445 not be enacted in its present form. We would be happy to see the United States Court of Claims appropriately housed elsewhere in a new building designed for the Court's specific use, and, if such a building is authorized, we will gladly assist in advising the architects on the exterior design. We believe that land in the area now occupied should be reserved for the expansion of the Executive Branch of the Government and that relocation of the Court of Claims in a new building in the vicinity of the Supreme Court or Judiciary Square will contribute to the orderly development of the plan of Washington. We hope, therefore, that S. 3445 will be reconsidered and a site selected that will conform with the long-range plans for the city.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Dennis Chaves, Chairman
Senate Committee on Public Works
412 Senate Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

April 10, 1956

Dear Congressman Buckley:

Your letter of March 15, 1956 requested the views of the Commission of Fine Arts with respect to H. R. 9873-84th Congress, a bill "to provide for the construction, equipment, and furnishing of a building for the United States Court of Claims, and for other purposes."

At a meeting on April 5, 1956, the members of the Commission considered the provisions of H. R. 9873, and it was agreed to recommend that H. R. 9873 not be enacted in its present form. We would be happy to see the United States Court of Claims appropriately housed elsewhere in a new building designed for the Court's specific use, and, if such a building is authorized, we will gladly assist in advising the architects on the exterior design. We believe that land in the area now occupied should be reserved for the expansion of the Executive Branch of the Government, and that relocation of the Court of Claims in a new building in the vicinity of the Supreme Court or Judiciary Square will contribute to the orderly development of the plan of Washington. We hope, therefore, that H. R. 9873 will be reconsidered and a site selected that will conform with the long-range plans for the city.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Charles A. Buckley, Chairman
House Committee on Public Works
1304 New House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

THE JURY

THE JURY

The jury is the most important body in the judicial system. It is the body that decides the facts of a case and the law that applies to it. The jury is made up of twelve people, who are chosen from a list of names. They are sworn to be fair and impartial, and to decide the case based on the evidence presented to them.

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April 10, 1956

Dear Congressman Buskley:

Your letter of March 16, 1956 requested the views of the Commission of Fine Arts on H. J. Res. 397, a joint resolution "establishing a National Shrine Commission to select and procure a site and formulate plans for the construction of a permanent memorial building in memory of the veterans of the Civil War."

At a meeting on April 5, 1956, the members of the Commission took the text of H. J. Res. 397 under consideration and it was noted that the primary duties of the National Shrine Commission will be to assist the Government in supplying the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, and other related patriotic organizations with an auditorium and meetings rooms. The structure or structures will be designed to constitute a National Memorial of the Civil War in much the same way that the Daughters of the American Revolution have set up their headquarters as a memorial to the Revolutionary period of our country. One of the stipulations is that the auditorium provide a suitable arena for grand opera and symphony concerts, for which the facilities of the Daughters of the American Revolution's Constitution Hall are considered to be somewhat deficient.

The provision of adequate facilities for opera and symphony concerts in the District of Columbia is a project that we have long advocated, and we hope that studies currently being pursued by the District of Columbia Auditorium Commission will lead to a satisfactory solution to this need. We do not believe that a duplication of this effort should be made until there is an opportunity to study that Commission's findings. Also, there are very few suitable sites now remaining for a project of this magnitude that lend themselves to the development of the long-range plan for Washington. Competition among the various commissions for sites for memorials that have a tendency to duplicate facilities for public use, will tend to result in confusion.

The members of the Commission hope, therefore, that the worthy aims that motivated H. J. Res. 397 can be redrafted in such a way that they can be correlated with some of the larger programs now confronting the planners of the city, or held in abeyance until these over-all developments have been clarified to a point where it will be possible to see where a National Memorial of the Civil War will best fit in.

Hon. Charles A. Buckley

April 10, 1936

The Bureau of the Budget has advised us that it perceives no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Hon. Charles A. Buckley, Chairman
House Committee on Public Works
1304 New House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

April 20, 1958

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

The Bureau of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is requested to advise the Bureau of the results of its investigation of the activities of the Communist Party, U.S.A., in the United States.

Very truly yours,

Walter J. Belmont

Director, FBI

Enclosed is a copy of the report of the Committee on Un-American Activities, U.S. House of Representatives, dated April 10, 1958, regarding the activities of the Communist Party, U.S.A., in the United States.

April 6, 1956

Dear Mr. Thompson:

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, which was held today, I read to the members your letter of March 13, 1956, requesting the comments of the members of the Commission on your statement in the Congressional Record of March 12, 1956, with reference to the National Gallery of Art. The Commission also considered the bill which you have introduced in the present Congress, H. R. 9988, "to make available temporary exhibition space for the National Collection of Fine Arts until such time as the Smithsonian Gallery of Art is finally established, and for other purposes."

The members of the Commission understand that both the National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian Institution have studied and are making reports on H. R. 9988. You will, doubtless, recall that the Commission has previously advised that the members favor the erection of a new building for the National Collection of Fine Arts at the earliest practicable date. They believe, however, that the wisdom of any interim arrangement is a matter which should be left to the judgment of the agencies involved,

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Frank Thompson, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

DEF/m

April 10, 1956

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Committee on Public Works has requested the views of the members of the Commission of Fine Arts on H. R. 9095, a bill "to provide for the establishment of an American National Theater in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes."

At a meeting on April 5-6, 1956, the text of H. R. 9095 was accordingly taken under consideration and the members of the Commission agreed that it seemed inadvisable to make a recommendation on H. R. 9095 until the report of the District of Columbia Auditorium Commission is available.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Hon. Charles A. Buckley, Chairman
House Committee on Public Works
1304 New House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

April 10, 1904

Dear Mr. Brewster

The Committee on the Birds of the Year has been organized and will be in session at the Smithsonian Institution on the 15th of April. It will be held in the morning and afternoon. The Committee will be in session on the 15th of April, and the 16th of April.

At a meeting on April 10, 1904, the Committee on the Birds of the Year was organized. The Committee will be in session on the 15th of April, and the 16th of April. The Committee will be in session on the 15th of April, and the 16th of April. The Committee will be in session on the 15th of April, and the 16th of April.

The Bureau of the Smithsonian Institution has been organized and will be in session at the Smithsonian Institution on the 15th of April. It will be held in the morning and afternoon. The Bureau will be in session on the 15th of April, and the 16th of April.

Very respectfully,
The Committee on the Birds of the Year

Respectfully,
The Committee on the Birds of the Year

Charles D. Walcott
Secretary

Mr. Charles D. Walcott, Secretary
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D. C.

APPENDIX 1

taken upon Apr. 6

3:30 p.m.

(8) Shipstead-Luce Act submissions:

- (a) SL 1823-2600 Pa. Ave., NW-Raze present gas station bldg. &
- (b) SL 1824-2600 Pa. Ave., NW-Erect new gas station bldg.
- (c) SL 1825-230-22nd St., NW-National Association of Life Underwriters Headquarters-Mr. John Marsh. *Mr. Luchman of*
- (d) SL 1841-6101 16th St., NW-3-story apt. bldg., "The Powers & Rittenhouse." *Luchman*
- (e) SL 1842-4600 Blagden Terr., NW-1-story dwelling.
- (f) SL 1843-4605 Colo. Ave., NW-1-story dwelling.
- (g) SL 1844-4607 Colo. Ave., NW-1-story dwelling.
- (h) SL 1845-4609 Colo. Ave., NW-1-story dwelling.
- (i) SL 1846-4155 Linnean Ave., NW-Brick wall & iron gate.
- (j) SL 1847-609-15th St., NW-1 24-sq-ft construction sign.
- (k) SL 1848-422-24 No. Cap. St.-1 single-faced, 18 sq-ft sign.
- (l) SL 1849-301 Pa. Ave., SE-1 single-faced, 24 sq-ft, neon sign.
- (m) SL 1850-1711 Holly St., NW-1 green & white, aluminum awning.

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